

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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The object of the present invention is to provide a color image capturing device which performs a reading operation at high resolution in a main scanning direction at high speed, and a reading operation at low resolution in a sub scanning direction at high speed.

5 A color image capturing device provided with groups of two rows of photoelectric conversion elements for each color of R, G and B is mounted on a carriage and planar color images are read by moving the carriage in a sub scanning direction. As each first row of photoelectric conversion elements and each second row of photoelectric conversion elements are offset from each other by an amount equivalent to a half of the
10 width of an individual element in a main scanning direction, and resolution in the main scanning direction is enhanced. As each row of photoelectric conversion elements is arranged at pitch equivalent to the height of four rows, all the rows of photoelectric conversion elements can read the same line, even if the carriage is moved at speed twice or four times as fast as that in reading at 600 dpi to read at the resolution of 300 dpi or 150 dpi
15 in the sub scanning direction at high speed in case the reading resolution of each row of photoelectric conversion elements is 600 dpi.

09335518-061899